

Report

[from the Proceedings of the New York State Convention of Universalists, held in the city of Albany, on the 26th, 27th and 28th of August, 1856]

Rev. L. C. Browne, from the committee to whom was referred the subject of the Albany Society, made the following report, which was accepted and adopted.

The committee to whom was referred the request of the Universalist friends in Albany for the sympathy and counsel of this body in regard to their embarrassments,

Report—that the Universalist Society in Albany are in possession of a good church edifice, erected in 1833 at a cost of \$15,000.

This property is involved to the amount of \$5,500. The Society has struggled for many years to preserve their church property from alienation, and sustain public worship, often under circumstances of great difficulty and discouragement.

Albany is an important position for our cause, both as a centre of travel, and as the capital of the most populous State in the Union; and therefore a distinctive organization should be sustained in this locality.

The time approaches when the church debt must be cancelled or the property sold at great sacrifice, and their worship indefinitely suspended.

If the church debt were paid, there are friends in Albany willing to make up sufficient to continue the support of worship. Individuals in Albany are ready to contribute to the liquidation of this debt \$2500. A neighboring clergyman gives assurance of \$1000, from individuals out of the said city.

Under these circumstances, your committee recommend the following action of this body, in behalf of the Universalist Society in Albany:—

Whereas the cause of Universalism has been planted in past years by the arduous labors of able clergymen, and the generous sacrifices of benevolent lay brethren, in the city of Albany, and whereas the Universalist Society in said city finds itself, at the present time, unable to continue public worship, and clear its church property from pressing liabilities, therefore

Resolved, that we recommend to the Universalist public to contribute liberally to this object; and that, in addition to the contributions of individuals, public collections be taken up in all our congregations in this State, for said object, on the second Sunday in October ensuing.

L. [Rev. Lewis] C. Browne
P. [Rev. Pitt] Morse
F. Johnson

May 15, 1856

Christian Ambassador, Auburn NY, Sat. 24 May 1856